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an advantage to the honest and industrious. The parents receive an allowance for any child too young to attend the schools: where the other children are instructed, clothed, and fed; and have some surplus of their earnings, to carry home to their parents.

8. Since 1795 a committee has met regularly every Saturday, to discharge debts, redeem pawns, purchase materials and tools, or advance loans for distressed artisans, *who can show that their distress is not occasioned by vice or idleness.* In four years, 940 families have been so relieved; and nearly one-third of the money so employed has been already repaid.

9. A foundling hospital was opened in 1795; in which 138 children have been already preserved, and 153 mothers maintained till they could be placed in service.

10. There are at present 3,090 paupers, fed and clothed, and obliged to do such work as they are capable of. Of these, 1,592 are aged persons, from 60 to 100 years of age; 1,097 maimed or diseased persons of middle age; and 401 children, the greater part of whom are very young.

GENERAL NUMERICAL STATEMENT.

In	1789	1799
Poor, above childhood . .	5106	2689
Poor children	2225	401
Receiving relief	7391	3090
In the house of correction	446	147
In the sick hospital	920	894
In the orphan hospital about	1000	600
Total	9757	4731
Reduction in the number of paupers		5026

If from 5026 be subtracted the persons receiving relief, the average number of which is 237, and children merely receiving education, which may be set at 1054, still there will remain a saving to the community of *three thousand seven hundred and thirty five persons.* *March* 22, 1800.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

I HAVE heard much censure thrown on an article in one of your late numbers, signed Sylvia; being a dialogue on the state of things in the county of Wexford, during the distressful period of 1798. It has been said that it is wrong to revive the recollection of those times. I think otherwise. In my view they convey important lessons of instruction both to the people and to the rulers.—The former may see the danger of resisting established power, by any other force, than the force of public opinion, exerted with coolness and firmness, so as to bring the majority to see the general good, and to act so as to promote it. Governors may also see the dangers arising from a system of coercion, and of power improperly exercised. But to attempt to bury the past in oblivion is a fruitless effort. History will record in a black page, the excesses and errors committed by both sides; and a lasting memorial that cannot be obliterated, while memory holds its place, is recorded in the recollection of thousands. I know that this little sketch of feeling was the product of the pen of a female unacquainted with the noise or irritations of politics.—She had seen some of the scenes which she pourtrays, and her pen in this artless sketch, obeyed the dictates of a feeling heart.

As a motive for not repeating the grievances of the period before alluded to, I have heard the conduct of government described as lenient. They have certainly endeavoured to obtain their purposes by indirect means, which some are inclined to call artifices. To accomplish their favourite object of the union, they were not sparing of bribes. Reversions, three deep, and seats both on the legal and episcopal bench, are said to have been profusely dispensed. Some have ranked a *royal bounty*, a regium donum, among the useful arts of governing, by which a priest-hood was gained, though a people was not rendered contented. To make this measure equitable, all sects, who would have accepted of it, should have had their teachers included, as otherwise the burden and the benefits are unequal. I do not however approve the plan, nor do I wish to see the priest-hood made in any manner independent of the people. From that view I would object to an allowance to the Catho-

lic priest-hood, who certainly have from their numbers, at least, as strong a claim to such a payment as any other. Some may call such a system lenient: I am inclined to denominate it artful. I give more credit to Lord Castlereagh for his policy than his justice. The Anti-burgher Synod, at a meeting held in Belfast, lately, have refused to accept the *regium donum* on the terms of submitting to the classification, and other conditions coupled with this measure. K.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

REPORT OF THE MARYBOROUGH CHARITABLE SOCIETY FROM 23d MARCH 1808, TILL 21st MARCH 1809.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
To amount of Subscriptions	58	15	1
To amount of collections made in town	48	15	4½
To amount of a fine, levied by a magistrate	5	0	0
To amount of loan instalments, paid till 20th March . .	137	8	1½
To amount of blanket instalment, paid till 20th March	38	15	9½
To amount of ready cash, received for blankets . . .	14	12	6
To balance due to treasurer, on settling the year's account, 22d March, 1809	105	9	5
	£408	16	5½
By 507 families relieved from 16th August till 20th March; in which were 1199 persons, to whom relief was afforded for one week, to the amount of	*l.* 39	*s.* 17	*d.* 5
72 persons relieved with the loan, to the amount of	237	0	6
115½ pair of blankets* purchased	106	17	4
By salary to Secretary, Stationary, Stamps, &c.&c.	25	1	0½
	£408	16	5½

State of the fund, 22d March, 1809.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Instalments due on loan . .	104	12	7
Ditto, on blankets	45	18	1
26 pair of blankets on hands	28	3	4
	£178	14	0
To balance due to Treasurer	105	9	5
Strength	73	4	7

* Of the above, 76 pairs were sold to 74 persons and paid for by instalments and 13 one half pairs for ready cash.

The foregoing statement having appeared in one of the Dublin papers, a letter was written on behalf of the Proprietors of the Belfast Monthly Magazine, to the Managers of the Society, requesting an explanation of their plan, in order to lay it before our Readers, it being our wish, by giving accounts of well managed institutions of this kind, to stimulate other places by example. We have been favoured with the following obliging letter from a gentleman at Maryborough, with an explanatory statement of the report of their respectable and praiseworihy institution.

SIR,

I send as I promised (though I have too long deferred it) a sketch explanatory of the system of our Society, in Maryborough. As you seemed to wish for its publication, I have studied to word it briefly; I flatter myself that every thing almost necessary has been stated.

I leave it, as you will perceive, in great measure to speak for itself, but I think it speaks clearly. Our success, in a poor town, meeting with opposition from bigotry, and receiving scarce any support from those best able to afford it, should tend to encourage exertion in other places. I have no hesitation in assuring you, that be the experiment tried when it may, if tried with zealous perseverance, that it will succeed, and I know of no means so admirable of managing money for the purposes of charity.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE REPORT OF THE MARYBOROUGH CHARITABLE SOCIETY.

It will be necessary, as introductory of the report of the Maryborough Charitable Society, to state the object which the society has proposed to itself to hold in view, for the amelioration of the condition of the industrious, the relief of the poor, and the improvement of the town itself.

The first object proposed, is the promotion of the spiritual welfare of the people, by friendly exhortation on the part of the Visitors, by circulating the scriptures and by the encouragement of a daily, and a Sunday school.